

April 2, 1937

From U. S. Biological Survey  
Washington, D. C.

For release when local  
C. C. C. camp celebrates  
anniversary.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF CCC CELEBRATED  
AT DES LACS REFUGE

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U. S. Biological Survey  
Congratulates Boys  
on "Good Job".

Civilian Conservation Corps boys doing development work on the Des Lacs Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, in Burke and Ward counties, North Dakota, have done a good job, says Iran N. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, in congratulating them on the fourth anniversary of the C. C. C.

The Des Lacs Camp is celebrating today (fill in date and brief explanation of ceremonies planned).

C. C. C. boys on 17 wildlife refuges are contributing man-power for the Biological Survey's nation-wide refuge program, says Chief Gabrielson. They are, in general, doing two important things: making the areas more attractive to the birds and making the refuges easier to administer.

One of these areas, the Des Lacs, was established as an inviolate sanctuary for wildlife by Executive order of August 22, 1935. Its 10,541 acres are a nesting and breeding place principally for gadwalls and shovelers. However, mallards, baldpates, green and blue-winged teals, pintails, redheads, canvasbacks, scaups, and ruddy ducks also use the area for nesting.

Other species of birds common to the refuge are western willets, avocets, western, horned, and eared grebes, coots, Franklin gulls, and Wilson snipes.

The C. C. C. boys' accomplishments here make these wild creatures feel at home on the Des Lacs Refuge, says the Bureau's Chief. Since July 15, 1935, when the camp was established, their work has contributed extensively both to wildlife comfort and protection, and facility of administration of the area.

Chief among these activities may be listed the construction of seven combination buildings, two equipment and supply storage houses, one garage, two lookout towers, and 11 diversion dams. They also dismantled 59 undesirable structures on the Refuge and salvaged the material.

They also erected 23,185 rods of fence and have another 3,090 rods partly completed; they have finished 18 miles and are completing another 20 miles of truck trails. They have done 14 miles of terracing, 5,975 square yards of riprap work and 31,520 square yards of fine grading and road sloping. They also marked 290 miles of refuge boundary, and eradicated poisonous weeds on 921 acres of land.

Another major project was the moving and planting of 8,660 trees and shrubs, and the collecting of 7,500 pounds of flower, grass, and shrub seeds. They also planted and seeded 558 acres to food and cover for wildlife.

All together, the camp devoted 2,135 man days to lake and pond development, 3,391 man days to other wildlife activities, and 1,329 man days to wildlife reconnaissance and investigation on the refuge. This, of course, does not take into consideration at all, the numerous other jobs done that were necessary to the proper development of the area to make Des Lacs a more attractive place for waterfowl.

"This work," says Dr. Gabrielson, "is part of the restoration of our American wildlife, an invaluable resource of great benefit to all Americans. The next time that you see a thin line of mallards winging their way along one of their high flight lanes, or hear their thrilling quacks, you can say to yourself, perhaps, 'It may be that those ducks are up there because the G. C. G. boys have been doing a good job down at the Des Lacs Refuge'."